

# The Sun

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10, 1915.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Second Class Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid.

DAILY, Per Month	\$3.00
DAILY, Per Year	\$36.00
SUNDAY, Per Month	60c
SUNDAY, Per Year	\$7.20
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month	85c
DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year	\$10.20

THE EVENING SUN, Per Month, 25c.  
THE EVENING SUN, Per Year, \$3.00.  
THE EVENING SUN (Foreign), Per Mo., 1.00.

All checks, money orders, &c., to be made payable to THE SUN.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Sun Printing and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau street, in the borough of Manhattan, New York. President and Treasurer, William C. Rieck, 170 Nassau street. Vice-President, Edward P. Mitchell, 170 Nassau street. Secretary, C. E. Lusk, 170 Nassau street.

London office, Edinburgh House, 1 Arundel street, Strand.

Paris office, 6 Rue de la Michodiere, off Rue du Quatre Septembre.

Washington office, Hibbs Building, Brooklyn office, 106 Livingston street.

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In Indianapolis and New York.

In his speech at Indianapolis on Friday President Wilson said:

"I want to ask the business men here present if this is not the first January in their recollection that did not bring a measure of stringency for the time being because of the necessity of paying out great sums of money by way of dividends and the other settlements which came at the first of the year."

Does the President recollect any January in many years when there was so little need of money to pay dividends because there were so few and such scant dividends to pay?

The President further remarked: "The Democratic party is still on trial. The Democratic party has to prove to the independent voters of this country not only that it believes in these things [that it has done since March 4, 1913] but that it will continue to work along these lines and that it will not allow any enemy of these things to break its ranks."

Some of the evidence to be considered by the trial jury was embodied in a news summary on another page of THE SUN which contained the report of the President's speech. It read thus:

"THOMAS W. CANNON, president of the Board of Education, and Superintendent MAXWELL sent letters during the day to all school principals requesting them to warn pupils against seeking jobs at present and thus prevent their being disappointed."

"Two thousand men and women in the broad line during the afternoon sent a silent message: 'Where are we to eat? What are we to do?'"

"Owing to the increasing number of insufficiently fed school children teachers of cooking will devote their time to preparing food for hungry pupils at the suggestion of City Superintendent MAXWELL."

But the President reiterates in plain speech what he once turned to a neat epigram:

"There is nothing the matter with American business except a state of mind."

Psychology, of course. It is the President's contribution to the relief of the situation. By the way, in the next breath he added:

"I never was in business."

He is manifestly in business now and means business in 1916.

Mrs. Fields and the Boston Group.

To those who have something of the sense of literary perspective there came an influx of memories fine and sweet, a few days ago, at the news of the death of Mrs. JAMES T. FIELDS. It was not that she had made especially notable contributions to literature during her long life, although in former days keen analysis, poise and high order of intelligence gave distinction to manuscript signed "ANNIE FIELDS." But with her passing probably comes to an end that group of extraordinary men and women residing in and around Boston whose genius, talent, true cultivation, produced an array of books worth reading and worth preserving. To be sure, HOWELLS is still with us, perceptive as ever, industrious as ever, with his spirit blithe as it was half a century ago, rejoicing in perpetual youth as all rejoice with him, but he is of a generation younger than "the New England galaxy."

EMERSON long since wrote "Finis" to his life work, as did Hawthorne, Holmes, Longfellow, Whittier, Lowell. Some years ago the Boston Authors Club celebrated on the same evening, the eightieth birthday anniversary of Mrs. HOWE and Colonel HIGGINSON. To-day these also are with the company of the dead; and with them ALDRICH and GILDER, who were present at that feast of love and congratulation, as well as CLEMENS, who was not there. Now Mrs. FIELDS has joined the ranks that have marched on.

From the first Mrs. FIELDS recognized the fact that her husband had an important service to render as editor, friend, counsellor in the firmament of authorship which radiated with such brilliance while with George Ticknor he stood at the centre. Mrs. FIELDS at once saw the part she was destined to play in the drama of life then progressing; and right well did she play it. Equally graceful, equally charming, equally sincere was she whether acting as hostess to some husband whom her husband brought home unexpectedly to dinner, or occupying a place of honor in the household of Lord and Lady TENNYSON. She had no petty personal ambitions. To seek prominence in social life, in club life or elsewhere

to her was unthinkable. She made the most of herself while making the most of her husband; together they went forward side by side, to the last comrades and true lovers—and much, very much, of the success of Mr. and Mrs. JAMES T. FIELDS was due to the second named in that ideal partnership. The world at large may perceive something of that rarely beautiful marriage of understanding spirits by reading between the lines certain chapters in Miss CAROLINE TICKNOR's notable work, "Hawthorne and His Publishers."

To the wives of men who are now striving, amid a multitude of trivial distractions, to accomplish literary work of purpose and power, as well as to the husbands of women sincerely so endeavoring, the life and high achievements of Mrs. JAMES T. FIELDS should form an interesting memory.

## Lo, the Poor Farmer!

Look on this picture painted by the Department of Agriculture as a result of investigation into farm incomes:

"The average farmer receives little more money for his year's work than he would be paid if he hired himself out as a farmhand. In other words, though he is in business for himself he gets little or no money reward for his labors and the risk and responsibility he has assumed."

Now look on this picture drawn by an exhibitor at the automobile show:

"There are approximately 1,500,000 cars in use in the country, representing a cost of about \$1,500,000,000. The average value of a new automobile is \$500. One-half of all the automobiles in this country are owned by farmers."

So much for the Agricultural Department's average farmer in the abstract. The real farmer is "something else again," and the motor car salesman knows his own. For the purposes of income taxation the farmer is hard up, but the dealers in devil wagons are the best detectives of solvency that the world has ever seen.

## The MacMonnies Fountain.

To discover an ideal art patron one is forced back into the early pages of history. Even so recent an individual as LORENZO the Magnificent failed to grasp all of his opportunities, and there are footnotes to his biographies that record several failures to grasp an artist's point of view.

New York, by virtue of a woman's generous bequest, has acquired the wherewithal to purchase a fountain for the City Hall Park. At first glance it seemed as easy to buy a fountain as to purchase a new tunnel beneath the East River. The eminent sculptor was easily decided upon, FREDERICK MACMONNIES, he who was chosen is as beloved by his fellow sculptors as he is safe in the affection of that portion of the public that knows sculpture. The artist apparently was as pleased with the commission as the city was. Sums of money sealed the bargain and nothing remained but the carving of the statue and the simple yet dignified unveiling ceremonies.

But artists encounter bad quarters of hours. That every one understands. It is part of the temperament. The muse of sculpture is a creature who cares little for business and business methods. It is a curious fact that the more one interests himself in business and business methods the less he is enabled to cope with the vagaries of art, patronage of the arts is thus sure to have its difficulties. But we cannot quarrel with an artist because his muse is recalcitrant.

Strongly practical natures have always felt that the great MICHELANGELO must have been excessively trying in his stipulations at times, yet what practical nature is there to-day who does not consider that the practical patron of the great Florentine committed grievous error in not according to MICHELANGELO's wishes in regard to the Julius tomb? We feel the error to-day so keenly that it now seems that almost any folly upon the part of the artist should have been forgiven for the sake of the greater blessing of the tomb.

In the case of our fountain, the public is aware of the difficulties that have arisen. The sculptor was unwillingly delayed in executing the work and when pressed for the design submitted one that the committee has rejected, chiefly, it is said, because the fountain will spout water to impracticable heights. The winds in the City Hall Park are constant and vicious since the advent of skyscrapers, and the powers by, since the park is more thoroughfare than park, will be drenched.

This is a serious point, but not insurmountable. It is scarcely conceivable that the sculptor will insist upon the flow of water that his artist drew into the sketch, or at any rate, once we acquire our fountain there is no injustice to art in running the water to suit ourselves. Even in Paris they shut down the supply of water in the fountains when the winds are high.

There are other objections raised by the committee, all serious and all practical, yet after a careful study of the models it seems more than likely that their real distrust of the design is due to its sketchiness. Our committees are not accustomed to such skeletonized art ideas, and appreciate with difficulty the fact that the artist will change it enormously. A less honest sculptor would have submitted a sketch more meticulously tricked out to deceive committees. The appalling increase of bad public sculpture in this country is directly traceable to this too prevalent practice.

In short, so fine a sculptor as MACMONNIES should have carte blanche. If we must have this fountain in the park, then force the fountain in. What's the objection to one fountain more or less? If the fountain seems strange and unexpected and even alarming, why should we be frightened at it? Paris has regretted more than once her first provincial outcry at Rossini's "Balzac,"

Furthermore, the City Hall Park is so hopelessly ugly and forlorn a place that no work of art, however unsuccessful, could further disfigure it.

Therefore, we may feel quite safe in erring, if we should be proved to err, upon the side of generosity. It is the first lesson in art patronage that one is never ridiculous in being generous to artists of merit.

## Two Women and a Man.

In the popular consideration of the triangle of passion wherein LORELYS ELTON ROGERS stands at the apex there is apt to be a good deal of waste and no small misdirection of sympathy. Really, only one person figures well in the combination and deserves such comfort and support as public sentiment can afford. This is Mrs. CAROLINE GIBBINGS ROGERS, as she is called, the wife of ROGERS. She is the victim of the whole scandalous intrigue and a sharer in the tragedy which is its consummation.

She has been betrayed in her affections by a bad husband, she has been tortured with morbid appeals to sacrifice herself and all moral principle for the purpose of making a vicious reputation respectable. Finally, her privacy and that of her family has been outraged; her name has been dragged into unsavory publicity. Throughout she has behaved with dignity and rectitude. She seems to have added charity of judgment and generosity of impulse to sense of duty. Every right minded person must be on her side against all other persons in the drama.

The other woman, IDA SNITZER, who posed for some years as ROGERS's wife, is a pitiable object as she lies a prisoner in a hospital facing a recovery that is far more cruel than death. She will presently be obliged to submit to a trial for the murder of her two children, and even though a jury with the strictly modern ideas of duty should bring in a verdict of acquittal she will have to go on through the dreary remnant of her life conscious in every waking hour of the ghastly void that she herself has created. The contemplation of her agony, present and prospective, compels a grief too profound for tears. But such grief is far remote from sympathy. It is the vain regret that is expended upon the consequences of lawlessness and sin. It would be the negation of all morality to ignore the fact that this woman entered on the forbidden path with full knowledge and free will. If her feet led down to death, it can only be said that since she defied fate her salvation lies in expiation by suffering and shame.

As for ROGERS, he also would be a pitiable object if there were room in the public view of him for any feeling save loathing and contempt. Even had men will have nothing to do with the bad man made manifest. The good turn from him with anger and scorn, the bad with sickly terror lest they be compromised by association.

ROGERS, the lady killer, the trifle with passion and the Deceitful, is virtually dead. His sin has found him out and so has the world. Henceforth decent society has no use for him. It may shock the moral sense of many people that while the partner of his wrongdoing will have to go through the ordeal of the courts, he may wholly escape a criminal charge. The only section of the Penal Code to which he seems to be amenable is that which covers his relations with the woman. It is exceedingly doubtful whether evidence that would hold in court could be mustered in support of an indictment. But it is of small consequence. ROGERS is his own judge in this case and it may be doubted whether any severity could equal the lash of his own conscience. He is an example to all men, young or old, who feel drawn toward the path of vicious indulgence.

## The Valuation of the Railroads.

In an interesting address to the Alumni Association of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology at Boston last night Mr. HOWARD ELLIOTT of the New Haven had this to say of the governmental valuation of the railroads:

"The railroads do not object to that work, although the cost will be very great. But in making that valuation all elements of value must be considered, and the railroads should be protected by constitutional guarantees just as well as all other property is protected. If this is done the valuation will, in my judgment, in most cases prove to be more than the capitalization, and the charge of overcapitalization be refuted."

This is a principle which Mr. ELLIOTT, so far as we know, is the first to perceive and state clearly.

The process of valuation for the purpose of fixing rates is just as jealously guarded by the constitutional guarantees against the taking of private property without just compensation and due process of law as is the process of valuation for the purpose of purchase or acquisition by the Government.

One Subway Menace That Can Be Eliminated.

Whether the subway can be rendered accident proof is a problem that will require some time for solution, but there is no doubt that the dangerous overcrowding of its platforms could be eliminated if a serious effort were made to regulate the entrance and departure of passengers.

Probably because interest in the road has been heightened by last week's narrow escape from disaster, Friday's newspapers recorded the painful injuries sustained by a man and a woman at the Fourteenth street station. As a matter of fact jammed platforms at this spot are the normal condition at several hours each day. Daily patrons of the road are mauled and hauled about, pressed against pillars, shoved against trains and generally subjected to treatment that imperils their bodies, racks their nerves and violates every instinct of decency. This is a notorious fact, which escapes attention only because the congestion is unfeeling belief that this congestion is unavoidable.

A half a dozen special policemen within the company's premises, and

two city policemen on the surface, instructed to guide and direct the flow of passengers and prevent congestion within the station would put an end to this recurrent danger without obstructing traffic or interfering in any way with the movement of persons bound to and from the trains. No rape technical attainments, no expensive reconstruction of plant, no reduction of facilities for travel, is needed to correct the existing conditions. Yet New York year in and year out tolerates the intolerable and permits an abuse that might be abolished without imposing any real hardship on any interest or individual.

The German Emperor and his Austrian ally are alone deemed worthy of portraiture in the "Almanach de Gotha" for 1915. Its patriotism, however, does not go so far as to suppress the French language, which it has used in the hundred and fifty-two years of its existence. It calls attention curiously to the fact that the countries at war with Germany have not supplied the diplomatic and statistical information that it has given to the more attention to the Fatherland and Austria-Hungary.

The American people will give up (tango, bridge, poker and other luxurious habits after the European war is over—The Hon. JOSEPH H. CHAPPEL.

A rather sweeping assertion from Mr. CHAPPEL, who believes that with the retrenchment made necessary by the effects of the war in Europe "the present vices" will lose their fascination. As to poker, the American people are not so much to be pitied as they were. Bridge, as a game of skill, has a strong hold upon them. Tango is a fad and will pass. But as society is fond of both bridge and tango, they are not likely to be given up because there must be economy here and there.

SAYS IRVIN COBB, the humorist: "I don't think there is such a thing as a born writer. I don't believe any literary rooster was ever hatched that could crow the day he piped the shell."

Years of patient and unrequited toil are necessary to acquire the perfect thought and clothe it in the perfect style, which is the true art of writing. That express it utterly even as the crow proclaims the delicate ideals and retiring modesty of the "rooster" at his climax.

Superintendent WILLIAM A. WHITING played HANON'S AL-KHARIDJ along the Bowery the other night and learned a whole lot of things that are hidden by natural causes from Sultans and sociologists. Among other facts he discovered that poor men will rather starve and freeze than take the chance of the world's supply of money. He also learned that the world's supply of money is not exactly synchronous with the Indian fiscal year, but the difference is not sufficiently material to affect the broad comparison.

Now, so far as information is available, the operations of 1914 have undoubtedly added largely to the amount of gold that was available for monetary use. First, the business depression suffered in the larger part of the world must have curtailed the purchase and, as a consequence, the manufacture of gold in articles of luxury, and the interruption of normal conditions by the war has still further reduced the demand for gold.

It is announced that nearly 150 high salaried canal officials of this State are to be dropped at an early day with the result of cutting \$500,000 off the payroll. Whether this is an economy or not will depend on whether nearly 150 others are or are not slipped into the warm places a little later when the public are looking another way.

Woons to name a deputy.—Headline.

Not long ago the ritual would have called for some such bitter gibes as "Poor fellow" or "Another dead sentence." It is a clear indication of the altered police situation that at present every one recognizes possibilities of permanence, utility and success in the field of managing and directing the force. Those who desire to see the era of decency, order and crime repression continued will pray that Captain J. Edgar Hoover may prove an able assistant to Commissioner Woods and may make a fine personal record in the post of Second Deputy Commissioner.

## THAT LUCKLESS TONGUE.

Mr. Winston Churchill's Unhappy Remark Pertinently Recalled.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: According to THE SUN the reason why larger ships of the British navy are not stricken is because the Admiralty is keeping them in safe harbors.

Is it not time for the German navy to "dig them out like rats?"

R. C. BRELLIE.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 9.

## WHEN IS MAN HAPPIEST?

An Inquiry as to the Period in Which Employment Is Greatest.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: In what period of a man's life does he find the greatest measure of enjoyment? Is it in youth, or in middle age, or is it in his maturity? THOMAS SCOTT AND TEN. MORRISTOWN, N. J., January 9.

## BOSTONIZING STEPHEN FOSTER.

Two Songs in Revised Version.

Our American folk songs, the Stephen Foster plantation melodies, have recently been put under the ban in Boston because of their so-called vulgarity. In order that they may not be entirely lost to our cultured friends Bostonese versions have been made of two of the best known of these classics:

Old Dog Tray.

## MORE GOLD FOR MONEY.

Decreased Production Offset by Smaller Non-Monetary Consumption.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: Two surprising facts have attended the developments of the world's gold production in 1914, namely, the decrease in Canada and the increase in the United States compared with the previous year. The Canadian figures are not yet definitely official, but usually there is only a small difference from the preliminary estimate for this country in the final, revised estimates. The expectation of most expert observers had been for a gain by Canada and a loss for the United States.

The gain for the United States is about \$4,000,000 and is the first year's increase since 1911. The figures since 1909, the year of maximum output, were: 1909, \$10,673,400; 1910, \$9,649,100; 1911, \$9,689,000; 1912, \$9,451,500; 1913, \$8,884,400; 1914 (preliminary), \$9,282,500.

The vast amount of credits and of Government paper in various forms created by the necessities of the European war gives peculiar importance to the world's supply of new gold. The fact prior to the war the extraordinary influx of gold from the Western nations to British India was exciting anxiety as to the annual production in view of the constant expansion of the world's credit instruments. Whether in the shape of bank currency, "deposit currency" or otherwise, the large volume of credit and obligations is continuously growing, and to maintain its strength and safety there must be no halt to the supply of the metal of ultimate redemption. The amount of gold annually available for "monetary" uses is the amount of production minus consumption in the arts and industries and the absorption by Far Eastern countries, where gold is hoarded in the main by reason of the habits and traditions of most Asiatic peoples, going into banks or into circulation to only a small percentage.

From the great Witwatersrand basin in South Africa the output of the precious metal since 1885, when the field was opened, the total production of all Africa reached its zenith in 1912, when it was \$211,850,000, according to the United States Mint records. But the year of maximum supply for monetary purposes of the world's gold output was 1913, when, owing to the high Transvaal output and the small demand from the East, it reached over \$338,000,000. The net imports of gold on private account by India were only \$15,300,705 in that country's fiscal year 1908-9. But India in 1911-12 and 1912-13 absorbed around 25 per cent. of the world's supply of new gold.

While industrial consumption was at a high rate, resulting in a sharp fall in the percentage left for use in coinage or as bank reserves, it is of interest to contrast the world results of the two calendar years 1908 and 1912, for convenience dealing only in thousands of dollars:

	1908.	1912.
Production	\$142,456	\$466,136
Industrial consumption	55,572	124,106
Net India imports	15,300	119,225
Total non-monetary use	\$102,872	\$322,424
Balance for money uses	\$38,604	\$222,710
Figures for fiscal years ended March 31, 1909 and 1913.		

The calendar years governing the statistics of production and industrial consumption are not exactly synchronous with the Indian fiscal year, but the difference is not sufficiently material to affect the broad comparison.

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stated to stimulate the movement by the establishment of the gold standard in the Hindu dependency. Academically desirable as this might seem to be, its practical advantage is not readily comprehensible in the circumstances. Perhaps the return of peace may find fewer advocates of a plan to convert an Eastern people, naturally favorable to silver for its currency, to a reluctant adoption of a gold currency when so many burdens will be found resting on the superior money metal that is vital to the banking and trade functions of the civilized Western world. There have been several reasons for India's magnetization of gold in the last century and a half, and it is not germane to the present discussion, but among them has not been any spontaneous desire of the Indian people to supplant the white with the yellow metal for circulation or for extensive use in bank reserves.

JAMES S. H. UMBRETT.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 8.

## SUFFRAGIST MISSTATEMENTS.

A Few of Them Pointed Out by an Advocate of the Home Rulers.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: I see in THE SUN this morning that the suffragists are already claiming that the passage of the resolution in the Senate in question of woman suffrage to the people of the State of New York is a victory for them. This is characteristic. Such politicians have declared in favor of submitting the law to the vote of the people. The home rulers, as my daughter likes to call those who are opposed to the extension of political suffrage to women, at first hesitated, having the question decided by our people as the suffragists are. We beat them in Ohio by a majority of 190,000. We expect to beat them in this State by a still larger majority.

Let me add that this claim seems to me thoroughly characteristic of the method of the suffragists. Not a clear and convincing exposition of the tenets of "modern art" that the sincere and would reform members of conservative art societies must be won over to suffrage. On the contrary, it is very much to be feared that those who were shocked or puzzled by the things they saw in the art gallery, and who were to be shocked by what the Daniel gallery displays. The show is in fact, for the already emancipated, and only for them.

It is interesting that some of the artists who have fought the fight for the suffrage and won should have the Daniel gallery, but Albert P. Hyder, Arthur B. Davis and present day classical art, the exhibition is not over the lesser known men who appear to have force but have not yet found their way.

The "Madonna" picture is a "Madonna"—one might almost say a Spanish Madonna. It is so reminiscent of things Peninsular. It is not up to hauntingly the same artist's "Fawn-brook's Daughter," but it is so reminiscent that it is scarcely fair to reminding this artist continually of his past success. "Madonna," whether Spanish or American, has a certain color and has a plaintive air that is akin to the ancient religious spirit.

EVERETT P. WHEELER.

Chairman Man-Suffrage Association.

NEW YORK, JANUARY 8.

## LIGHTING THE SUBWAY.

Why Not an Independent System for Use When Accidents Occur?

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: When a serious accident happens like that which recently occurred in the subway many things suggest themselves which might serve to prevent another such affair or to mitigate the trouble should it occur again.

As pitch darkness in the tunnel resulted from the interruption of the electric current, it would be a measure of wisdom to have an independent system of lighting the tunnel, the electric current being used for the independent source, so that if another short circuit were to break the power and lighting current the tunnel would not be thrown into midnight darkness, but sufficient light would be supplied to enable the occupants of the trapped trains to get out.

BROOKLYN, JANUARY 8.

HUDSON MAXIM.

## Dr. Jonathan Edwards and Dr. William Sunday.

To THE EDITOR OF THE SUN.—Sir: An editorial article in THE SUN of January 5 compares the reverend Jonathan Edwards and the irreverent William A. Sunday. May I suggest that the latter was the intellectual giant of his period, a scholar and a gentleman. Although he accepted a theological scheme of salvation, commonly held in his day, which involved an angry God, a degraded human nature and a literal hell, I understand that his acceptance was that of a logical and sincere man, from a purely intellectual point of view. But his gentle heart and his noble life were saddened by it.

With him the irreverent William Sunday has nothing in common except the theological scheme of salvation, a scheme not commonly held to-day, but belonging to the deadwood of dying creeds. Sunday is not a scholar, even wise enough not to engage in the Partisanian task of sweeping back knowledge and a religion of love. As for his heart, it is easily saddened by the horror of the divine (7) plan he preaches; rather it rejoices in a religion of hate and in the thought of hell fire. He is a devil, not a saint, in those who are away by his power, for power he has, though woefully misdirected.

No Jonathan Edwards was one of the Saints, saddened by a theology he felt bound to proclaim.